

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/649,170

Examiner

Thomas R. Peeso

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS, IAN M.

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application papers filed.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-38.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

THOMAS R. PEESO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

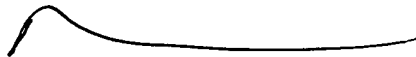
The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification on page 1, line 6, after "Application No." insert --
10/649,306—

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas R. Peeso whose telephone number is 5712723809. The examiner can normally be reached on 7-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 5712723799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Thomas R Peeso
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2132

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant has claimed uniquely distinct features in the instant invention which are not found in the prior art, either singularly or in combination.

According to one aspect of the invention, a device for processing an image includes a decryption module, a key module, and an image generation module. The decryption module is configured to receive geometry data, wherein at least a portion of the received geometry data is encrypted, and to decrypt the geometry data based at least in part on a decryption parameter. The key module is configured to receive key data and to provide the decryption parameter to the decryption module in response to the key data. The image generation module is coupled to receive the decrypted geometry data from the decryption module and configured to transform the decrypted geometry data to displayable image data. In one embodiment, the encrypted portion of the geometry data includes vertex coordinates of a primitive that are encrypted by applying a perturbation; the decryption module removes the perturbation.

According to another aspect of the invention, a system for generating images includes a sender device and a recipient device. The sender device is configured to send geometry data via a communication channel, wherein at least a portion of the geometry data is encrypted. The recipient device includes a decryption module, a key module, and an image generation module. The decryption module is configured to receive the encrypted geometry data and to decrypt the geometry data based at least in part on a decryption parameter. The key module is configured to receive key data and

to provide the decryption parameter to the decryption module in response to the key. The image generation module is coupled to receive the decrypted geometry data from the decryption module and configured to convert the geometry data to displayable image data.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a method of generating an image is provided. Geometry data for the image is received. At least a portion of the received geometry data is encrypted. It is determined whether a key is present. In response to determining that the key is present, the encrypted portion of the geometry data is decrypted, and an image is rendered using the decrypted geometry data. In some embodiments, when the key is present, a decryption parameter is extracted from the key, and decryption is responsive to the decryption parameter. In some embodiments, when the key is not present, an image may be rendered using the received geometry data including the encrypted portion.

These features are not found or suggested in the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U. S. Patent No. 3,814,904

U. S. Patent No. 4,498,736

U. S. Patent No. 5,428,479

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas R. Peeso whose telephone number is 571 272-3809. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri, 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The central fax number for the office is 571 273-8300.

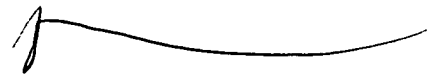
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron, can be reached on 571 272-3799.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

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Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at
866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thomas R. Peeso
Primary Examiner

12 September 2006